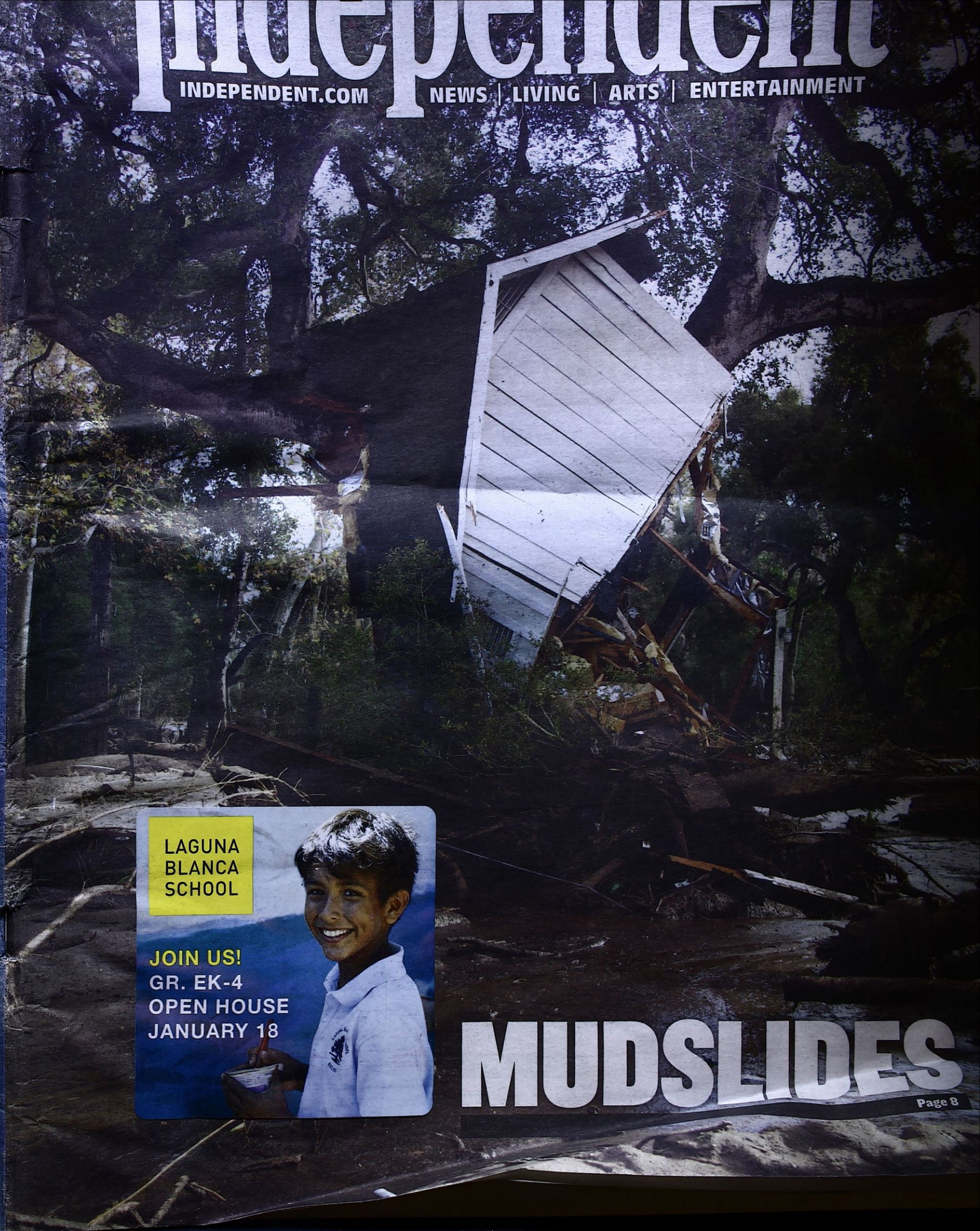


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MUDSLIDES
Page 8

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8 COVER STORY

Mudslides
(Indy Staff)

ON THE COVER: Photo by Brandon Yadegari

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Due to the mudslides, many events have been canceled or postponed. Please contact the venue to confirm the event.

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into the Independent's drop-on spot early every Thursday morning to deliver the papers to Montecito, Summerland, Carpinteria, Ojai, and Ventura. They've been delivering us for three decades, but the fires and floods are making this patch particularly rough. "Everyone asks, 'Why are you late?' when the truck can't get here on time [from Orange County]," said Carlos Jr., adding with a twinkle in his voice, "but I am the first guy who gets the paper and the last guy who reads the paper, after I get home."



MUDSLIDES

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And Then Came the Flood

Mudslides Erupt from Thomas Fire Burn Scar, Killing 15 and Devastating Montecito

by Kelsey Brugger, Keith Hamm, Tyler Hayden, and Nick Welsh

More weeks after the largest wildfire in state history scorched the foothills of Montecito, disaster struck yet again Tuesday morning as devastating mudslides triggered by heavy rainfall reduced much of the coastal community to what officials described as a scene resembling a World War I battlefield.

Fallen trees, massive boulders, and household debris littered streets lined with mangled cars and several dozen shattered homes, some sheared completely from their foundations. Among the wreckage were the bodies of victims swept away by flooding, concentrated most heavily between Cold Spring and Romero canyons. The liquefied mud had raced downslope and blasted through creek beds all the way to Highway 101.

As of press time Wednesday morning, incident commanders reported 15 fatalities, 28 injured, 24 missing, and 100 sheltering in place. The death toll is expected to rise in the coming days as rescue attempts give way to recovery efforts. One thousand people had evacuated. More than 300 people were still trapped Wednesday behind impassable roads in Romero Canyon, where rescue efforts were actively underway. Many areas remain inaccessible. In total, family residences have been reported destroyed, 300 damaged. Eight nonresidential properties were also destroyed and another 20 damaged.

Video footage of a Coast Guard helicopter in the area showed a couple, their three children, and their two dogs being hoisted to safety. Nearby, after search and rescue personnel pinpointed muffled cries for help, firefighters spent two hours sawing through a collapsed house to reach a 14-year-old girl trapped inside. A 23-year-old man dragged half a mile south from his Hot Springs Road home was miraculously rescued under a 101 overpass. He sustained moderate injuries and is expected to survive. His 64-year-old father, however, remains missing.



LEFT BEHIND: Firefighters worked through the day and night to rescue trapped residents. A number of family pets.

Sheriff Bill Brown said Tuesday that the identities of the deceased victims were not being released until their families had been notified. Ventura County officials did confirm that Roy Rohter, founder of the St. Augustine Academy, was among those killed. His wife, Theresa, was rescued and is in stable condition. Michael F. McLean, president of Thomas Aquinas College, which Rohter's daughter attended, issued a statement on the school's website: "Roy Rohter was a man of strong faith and a great friend of Catholic education. He played a pivotal role in the lives of countless young Catholic students — students who came to a deeper knowledge and love of Christ because of his vision, commitment and generosity."

At Santa Barbara's City Council meeting on Tuesday, City Fire Chief Pat McElroy, scheduled to retire next week, made perhaps the toughest presentation he's ever had to make. It was supposed to be an update on the Thomas Fire, effectively extinguished now, but McElroy had grim news to deliver. Bodies were being exhumed from the muck. More were certainly to come. Normally a man of infectious optimism, McElroy struggled to maintain his composure. He lost it at the number of the dead.

The mudslides, McElroy said, are clearly part of the Thomas Fire, which has now pushed past 280,000 acres, but state and federal rules and regulations may or may not see them as separate disasters. At stake in the answer could be many millions of dollars.

McElroy sought to put the day's events into context. "To some who call Santa Barbara home," he said, "this is a real tragedy."

Though the scope of Tuesday's tragedy remains difficult to fathom, the weather conditions that triggered it were not unexpected. Last Friday, January 5, forecasters announced that the first big storm of the season was set to arrive Monday night, dropping as much as two inches along the coast and twice that in the mountains. Flooding was expected, they said, especially in and below the Thomas Fire burn scar between Montecito and Carpinteria.

"We need to organize and inform the public about [this] very clear and present danger," said 1st District Supervisor Das Williams at a press conference outside Carpinteria City Hall. Officials on hand, including Office of Emergency Management Director Robert Lewin and County Public Works Deputy Director Tom Fayram, warned that the potential for flash floods in the burn area this season was 10 times greater than a normal year because the Thomas has burned off the top layer of soil that normally acts as a sponge during rainstorms.

Lewin said the fire denuded and destabilized 17 major canyons across Montecito and Carpinteria. He identified "four critical areas" that were dangerously vulnerable to flash floods and attendant mud and debris: within the burn scar, immediately outside its perimeter, creek-side properties, and lowlands with histories of flooding. Lewin encouraged residents to visit an interactive map on the county's website that pinpointed homes in dangerous areas. He also strongly suggested residents sign up for the county's emergency warning system, awareandprepare.org.

By Sunday, January 7, meteorologists had revised and increased their rainfall predictions, and parts of Santa Barbara County were put under a mandatory evacuation order at noon on Monday. The evacuation zone map closely mir-

rored the one created during the Thomas Fire — this week's mandatory order extended above (north of) Highway 192/Foothill Road, from the county line to Cold Springs Road; the voluntary evacuation warning extended south of 192 from the county line to Hot Springs/Olive Mill roads. Residents living in areas heavily impacted by the Whittier, Sherpa, and Rey fires were also told to leave. A county-sponsored storm update meeting scheduled for Monday was canceled to keep people off the roads.

Despite these warnings, many Montecito residents refused to leave their homes. Sheriff Brown said his deputies spent Monday going door-to-door to issue the mandatory evacuation order in zones where approximately 7,000 people live. "While some residents cooperated, many did not and chose to stay in place," he said. Brown emphasized he was "heartbroken" by the loss of life but noted that "the efforts [Monday] night and [Tuesday] resulted in many lives that were saved."

Brown speculated that those residents who stayed behind did so out of frustration and fatigue after they'd been forced to evacuate during the Thomas Fire. They may also simply have hoped for the best and refused to accept the extent of the dan-



HELP FROM ABOVE: A U.S. Coast Guard chopper carries a rescuer headed toward people trapped on their roofs on San Leandro Lane.

"A lot depends on Mother Nature. This was the estimate of where things were going to occur, and out, they were exactly right." Brown said it was predict to "a house or a block or a neighborhood impact was going to be."

Pushed by a strong cold front, Tuesday's storm brought "unprecedented" amounts of rain to the foothills, with point dropping 0.54 inches in just five minutes.

ger. "I think they was not going to when obvious Martin Tait, a retired homebu on Crespi Lane, the holdouts. "Af half weeks of bei by the fire, we de tight and see wh he said. "We got lu

Brown struc yet slight tone when the deaths and occurred within uation zones. Bu orders and volun were issued base tion and predicti by meteorologists Forest Service p flood district staff isn't an exact scie defining where [going to happen,

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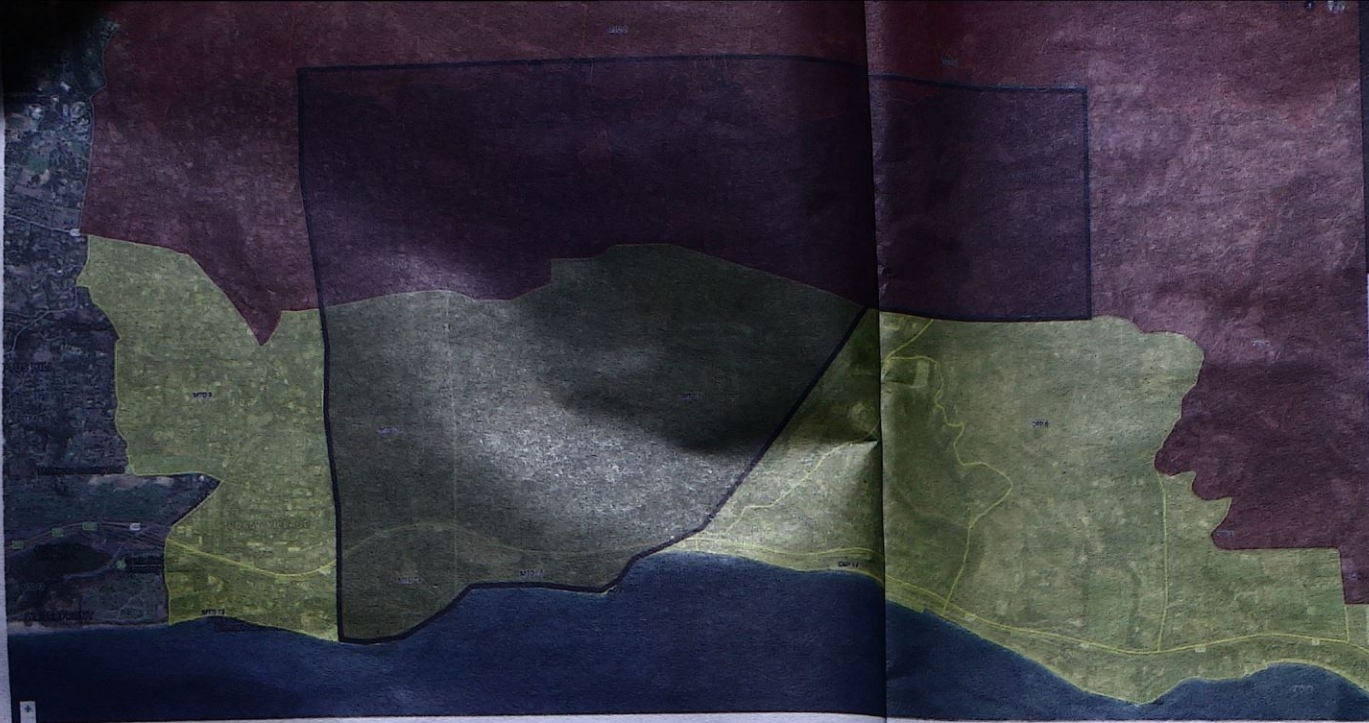
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WHERE'S THE LINE? County officials are already facing tough questions about how mandatory (red) and voluntary (yellow) evacuation zones were determined. A number of people were killed in voluntary areas. The black boundary here shows the "exclusion zone" created by authorities to keep voyeurs out of bay.

Parts of the district are currently without water altogether. Other areas will soon lose service as well, according to Montecito Water District Manager Nick Turner. Turner could not say the total number of customers impacted. "We will be working 24 hours a day to finish identifying the main break locations and getting them repaired," Turner said. "It is going to take days."

The pipeline is the main source of water for the South Coast. According to the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board, "No redundant pipeline exists for conveyance of water supply in the South Coast Conduit when a section of the pipeline needs to be isolated for emergencies or repair." Montecito Water District staff advised customers to bring all water to a boil for one minute and then let it cool before using. "Boiled or bottled water should be used for drinking and food preparation until further notice. This is the preferred method to assure that the water is safe to drink," district staff said in a statement.

Westmont College did not sustain significant flooding in the storm, but due to the compromised water service, canceled classes through Friday. San Ysidro Ranch, barely saved during the Thomas Fire and scheduled to reopen this week, is reported to have sustained heavy damage.

The All Saints-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church in Montecito at 83 Eucalyptus Lane is continuing to operate as a temporary triage center for injured and evacuated residents. People began arriving at the church around 4 a.m. Tuesday. "My wife, Alyson, started opening up the parish hall and lighting candles," said Pastor Aimée Eyer-Delevett. "And I sent a text throughout the neighborhood for blankets and other things we needed. People showing up drenched, covered in mud and traumatized, separated from family members."

Approximately 10 people with nonserious injuries were treated before being transported by four-wheel-drive U.S. Army vehicles through clogged roads to the Vons grocery store on Coast Village Road. From there, they were taken to Cottage Hospital and then reunited with family at Santa Barbara City College, where a Red Cross shelter has been erected. Those seriously injured are being medevaced from the athletic field at Montecito Union School.

Cottage Hospital activated its Incident Command Center shortly after 5:30 a.m., when the first of the mudslide victims began arriving by medevac. Fortunately, the timing coincided with

gists said the threshold for flash flood warnings is a rain event that delivers 0.20 inches in 15 minutes.

Such was the power of the resulting mudflow that when former *Independent* photographer Kim Reiersen found a woman at the foot of her driveway, all the woman's clothing and jewelry had been stripped away by the storm, as had one of her arms. Reiersen called the authorities about the woman, who was in her fifties or sixties, and a responding helicopter rescue crew ascertained from on high that the woman was dead. They left the body with Reiersen, who covered it up with a green tarp when the crows started circling and placed a cross on top.

Emergency 9-1-1 dispatchers on Tuesday received over 600 calls between 3 and 6 a.m. from hurt and trapped Montecito residents, Brown said. The 458 firefighters and rescue personnel who've descended on the scene remain hampered by extreme conditions and difficult obstacles, including fields of mud with a consistency close to wet concrete that make basic movements difficult, he said.

Pete Works' Fayram said crews had worked "feverishly" over the last several weeks to clear debris basins in the wake of the Thomas Fire and in anticipation of mudslides. His department and Cal Fire strike teams "did absolutely everything we could do in advance of the storm," he said, and worked right up until Monday night before the rains arrived. Intensive clearing efforts will take place in the coming days and weeks to restore drainage back into creeks and channels ahead of upcoming storms, Fayram said.

Highway 101 remains closed between Seaclyff to the south and the Milpas Street exit to the north, as of Wednesday morning. Caltrans expects the closure to last until Monday. It has dispatched five front-loading dozers and more than 20 container trucks from San Luis Obispo to clear the way. Earlier efforts were slowed by a broken water main along Olive Mill Road that flooded the freeway already covered by sludge and debris.

Authorities have issued boil-water notices for all Montecito Water District customers, as the rainstorm and debris flows severely damaged the South Coast Conduit, the 26-mile pipeline that carries water from the northern part of Lake Cachuma to Montecito and Carpinteria. Its exact condition is still unclear, Supervisor Williams said, but the preliminary reports are "very bad." It appears to have ruptured at points along a three- to four-mile stretch from Barker Pass to Ortega Reservoir.



SWEPT AWAY: Neighbors placed a green tarp and cross over the remains of a woman killed by the flash floods.



LANDMARK, LANDSLIDE: The iconic Montecito Inn, like many businesses on Coast Village Road, was inundated with mud and sludge.

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A Few of Many Miracles

Amid the Tragedy, Stories of Rescue and Survival

Twenty-three-year-old Connor McManigal was swept from the 300 block of Hot Springs Road all the way down to Highway 101. His clothes were ripped from his body. Half of his body was covered in abrasions, but he is expected to survive. His father, John, a father of six, is still missing. They were in the voluntary evacuation zone.

Nearby on Hot Springs Road, Billy Grokenberger, 27, was with his mom, Trina; dad, David; and dog, Molly, when the storm came. Water slammed the side of the house, filling to the top of the front doorway. The family climbed to the second story and watched an overturned SUV slam into their cars parked in the driveway. "We watched the cars go in a matter of minutes," he said. Minutes later, the rain subsided, and the family walked outside, using a flashlight to signal to firefighters. Their neighbor's house was totally gone. They got a ride to a friend's house in the fire truck.

At about 4 a.m. on Tuesday, Montecito resident Berkeley "Augie" Johnson heard the faint sound of a child crying. It was pitch-black. A 10-foot wall of rocky, muddy water had barreled down Olive Mill Road for nearly an hour. Johnson and a team of firefighters who had arrived spread out through the street to search for anyone trapped in the sludge. They waded through the debris, grabbing anything they could hold on to — branches, metal poles, roots, and boards. Several minutes later, a firefighter reached several feet down and pulled out a 2-year-old girl who looked like a "muddy doll." Another firefighter cleared her airway. She was transported to the hospital. The girl suffered an injury to her hip, Johnson later learned, but she is expected to be fine. "I don't know how that baby survived," he recalled in an interview on the new cellphone he'd just picked up at AT&T.

Just before rescuing the girl, Johnson was in the middle of his own emergency. He awoke early that morning to heavy rain pounding on his Montecito roof. He went outside to clear the drains in his backyard and saw a huge explosion about a mile away. The only light was from the flames. Trees were falling one after another, rushing in his direction. A 10-foot wall of water, cement blocks, and tree branches plowed toward him.

He thought he had 30 seconds.

He had six.

"It was so fast," he said. "It was unbelievable."

The whole house was caving in, he said. He ran upstairs to find his wife, daughter, and son on the second floor. "We saw our cars float away down the streets," he said. Punctured propane tanks also streamed down the river. The family climbed out the window and crawled to the highest point of the roof. "We sat up there until it subsided" about 45 minutes later, he said.

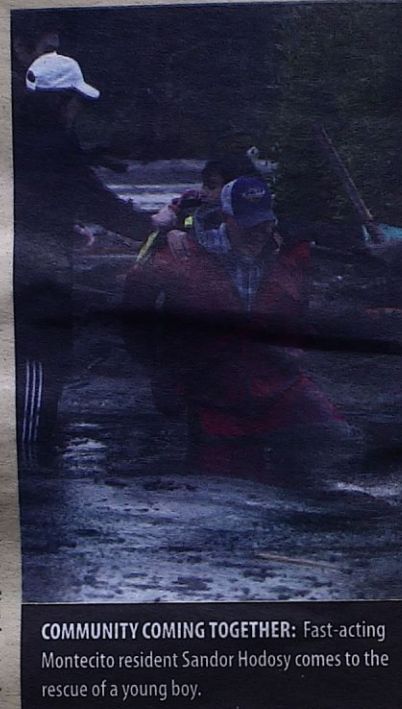
When the muddy mess slowed down, Johnson said he immediately thought of his neighbors, two young boys and a single mom. Searching for them led him and the firefighters to the crying baby girl. "It was just amazing," he said. "Had we not gone over there, I don't think that kid would have [survived]." He does not know what happened to her parents. As for the two boys and their mother, he said he heard they managed to float away on a mattress (but he has not been able to confirm their safety).

The Johnson house was about a half mile from the Thomas Fire's flames. During the fire, they had packed their valuables and transported them out of the area. They'd just brought them back and unloaded them. "We are pretty sad about the pictures and everything we didn't pack," he said. He said in the past it took seven or eight days of rain for the area to flood. "This was an hour of rain, and the house was gone." To make matters worse, Johnson said, they had just remodeled their kitchen and put a fresh coat of paint on the exterior.

He expressed great appreciation for the fire crews, and he vowed to next time follow evacuation orders.

Three years ago, the Johnsons made local headlines, but in a tragic incident. Their 19-year-old son, Nick, died in the Santa Barbara High School swimming pool while training for water polo at his alma mater.

Visit Independent.com for more personal stories and updates about victims and survivors.



COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER: Fast-acting Montecito resident Sandor Hodosy comes to the rescue of a young boy.



BOGGED DOWN: A firefighter helps two Montecito residents pick their way to Jameson Lane.

CONTINUED from p. 11

a scheduled shift change, so the emergency room was essentially double-staffed with doctors and nurses for the remainder of the morning and afternoon. By 3 p.m., 20 patients had arrived, four in serious condition. A number of medical staff who live in Ventura were unable to commute north, however; 13 percent of Cottage's employees live there. The *Condor Express* and Island Packers have offered to ferry workers up the coast by boat.

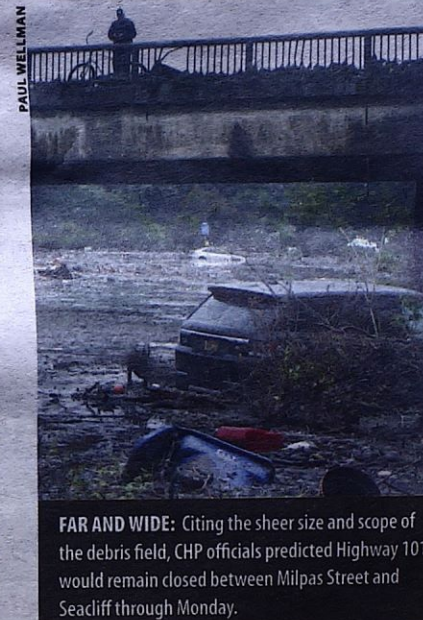
A Family Assistance Center meant for those directly impacted by the mudslides is operating out of the First Presbyterian Church in Santa Barbara at 21 East Constance Avenue. Victims and their friends and family in need of psychological or spiritual support are welcome, said a County Behavioral Wellness spokesperson, who asked the public and members of the media to respect their privacy. The Center will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and can be reached by phone at 364-1822.

Santa Barbara City College is hosting a Red Cross shelter in its gymnasium, where hot meals and warm clothing are being distributed. The most effective way for the public to offer its help, a spokesperson said, is to make a financial donation through the Red Cross website so the aid organization "can purchase exactly what our clients will need." Those wishing to volunteer can also sign up online.

Santa Barbara hotels have stepped up and are offering special rates to flood victims and evacuees. The list can be found at sbchamber.org.



HEARTBREAK AT HOME: Teresa Drenick stands in her sister's Montecito home off Glen Oaks Drive while Sean Barnwell retrieves some of her personal belongings. Drenick's sister has been missing since Tuesday morning.



FAR AND WIDE: Citing the sheer size and scope of the debris field, CHP officials predicted Highway 101 would remain closed between Milpas Street and Seaciff through Monday.

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NEWS of the WEEK
 JAN. 4-11, 2018
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CITY

FIRST EVER: Cathy Murillo beams as she gets sworn in as Santa Barbara's 50th mayor and first-ever Latina to hold that post.

Murillo Sworn In as Mayor

New Council Starts Sweet but Veers Sour

by Nick Welsh

There was a palpable abundance of celebratory goodwill expressed at the start of this week's City Council meeting. Cathy Murillo, the onetime newspaper reporter turned progressive councilmember, was sworn in as the city's 50th mayor and the first Latina ever to hold that post. "I'm standing ready to lead Santa Barbara into an ever-brighter future," Murillo declared.

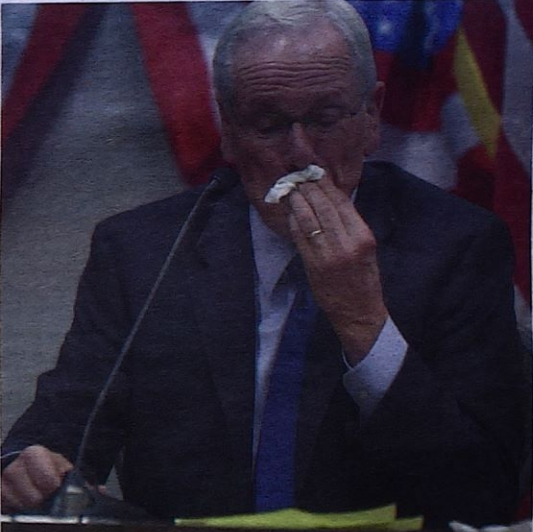
Kind words were lavished upon Murillo's predecessor, Helene Schneider, as she passed the gavel and stepped down off the dais after 14 years of service, along with councilmembers Frank Hotchkiss and Bendy White. "You'll always be the mayor of Santa Barbara," Murillo said to Schneider. Both White and Hotchkiss were termed out of office after running against Murillo for mayor this past November and coming up short. Murillo asked Hotchkiss — with whom she frequently sparred — to inscribe something personal in a copy of his novel, a steamy romance, that she had bought at Chaucer's.

Kind words were heaped in turn on Murillo, as well as newly elected councilmembers Eric Friedman and Kristen Sneddon, who replace Hotchkiss and White. "You'll be a great mayor," Hotchkiss said to Murillo as she pulled out his book. Incumbent Councilmember Gregg Hart came in for some laudatory talk, too, getting sworn in after winning his fourth term on council.

But after all the grins, the swearing-ins, and about 30 minutes set aside for punch and cookies, the mood shifted. Old political fault lines reasserted themselves as the new council struggled to answer the thorny question of how to fill the council vacancy created when Murillo was elected mayor. Without a successor, there will be only six councilmembers and no way to resolve a three-to-three deadlock, should one arise. Worse yet, the 3rd District, which Murillo had represented — the city's largest majority-minority district — would be without representation.

City Attorney Ariel Calonne has insisted the City Charter requires the council appoint her successor within 30 days. A special election in April, he argued, would cost City Hall \$300,000. But former judge Frank Ochoa has ever-so-gently threatened to sue if the council doesn't hold a special election to fill that spot. Ochoa, with a voice like wet rocks, has been retained by remnants of the same committee that successfully sued to force City Hall to switch to district elections three years ago.

The debate was complicated, technical, and procedurally confusing. It was also intensely political and at times pissy. Several weeks ago, the council voted to fill Murillo's



POLITICAL HALF-LIFE: A tearful Bendy White bows out from the City Council after spending the past 35 years on multiple City Hall boards and commissions.

void by appointment. District election advocates have since rallied, complaining that anyone appointed to the post would enjoy the undue advantage conferred by incumbency. "Democracy demands a special election," declared district supporter Lanny Ebenstein. "Correct me if I'm wrong, but I was under the belief this country was based on democracy," said Victor Reyes, wearing a black hat with an American flag and black T-shirt with the words "I only look illegal" printed in bold white letters.

NEWS BRIEFS

CITY

An earth scientist with a penchant for mixing street theater with apocalyptic events, Bruce Caron is trying to save State Street from its rebranding "blahs" and post-Thomas Fire "blues." Caron, best known as agitator in chief for 2007's sign Blue Line project, which got the kibosh for trying to highlight climate change and sea-level rise in the city. He's now galvanizing pop-up "cash mobs" of people armed with \$20 bills. The first to be mobbed was C'est Cheese on 1/6. "It was great!" said proprietor Kathryn Graham. "It was a nice showing of support and did a lot for our morale." Seven more similar events will kick off soon, joining the many fundraisers planned to help fire and flood victims. Visit independent.com to stay current.

The remodel of the Santa Barbara Rescue Mission on Yanonali Street, estimated to cost \$10 million, will be speeded forward by a generous gift. Last month, David and Anna Grotenhuis donated \$1 million to the shelter, which has served more than three million meals and sheltered homeless individuals for 1.7 million nights since opening in 1986. The Grotenhuis couple is well known for its activities in the nonprofit community. The Rescue Mission operates entirely on private fundraising and philanthropy, accepting no public monies. The shelter's treatment completion rate is 37 percent, and more than half its graduates recidivate long-term, compared to about 20 percent nationally for both categories.

COUNTY

A gift from Santa Barbarans Sandra Schoolfield and Jon Kechejian helped the county's Welcome Every Baby program provide about a thousand newborns and their families with a personal visit from a trained lactation nurse bringing information and support for the baby, mother, and family. "Despite having one older child," said one mother, "the nurse told us many new pieces of information about baby care, juggling siblings, and local resources." The nurses visit families in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara, Goleta, the Santa Ynez Valley, and Lompoc three days after a child is born and also a month later. The \$18,000 gift enabled four nurses to get training and certification in the program, which has seen more than 10,000 families since the County Education Office began the program in 2008.

STATE

In response to the Thomas Fire, State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson and Assemblymember Monique Limón will introduce three bills to strengthen emergency alerts and procedures. These bills propose an opt-out, location-based alert system that will automatically subscribe county residents to targeted emergency notifications, Spanish translations to state and county emergency notifications, and strengthen local development plans to reduce wildfire risk. Hearings for these bills are yet to be set.

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THREE-IN-ONE: Incumbent Councilmember Gregg Hart (left) gets sworn in with newcomers Eric Friedman (center) and Kristen Sneddon (right).

Mayor

CONT'D FROM P. 15

They were hoping the council might revisit the issue sometime later this January before an appointment could be made January 30. But before public comment had concluded — there were still three speakers on deck — Councilmember Jason Dominguez jumped in to make a motion to delay discussion of the issue to a date well beyond January 30. Dominguez is no friend of special elections nor a supporter of Murillo; procedurally, it was a bold if premature move. Murillo objected: "There are three more speakers. Can you hold on?" Dominguez would not budge. "No, I'd rather make it now," he insisted.

Ultimately both sides would walk away getting what they wanted. Dominguez would get a council discussion of what legal changes to the city's charter would be needed to allow special elections should council vacancies come up in the future. And district election supporters got a promise at least to discuss a special election two weeks hence. At times, however, it was anything but clear how many motions were on the floor, which one was up for a vote, and which councilmembers were trying to second which motion.

The mayor's job is to run council meetings, and doing so isn't nearly as easy as Murillo's predecessor, Schneider, routinely made it seem. Before Schneider stepped down Tuesday, she was praised for her ability to "herd cats" and to contain council debates within the confines of civil discourse. For Murillo, this is a new and unaccustomed role. The underlying legal issues of this debate, however opaque they seem, could be both immediate and pressing. Councilmember Gregg Hart is expected to announce shortly his intentions to run for 2nd District county supervisor in this June's election for the seat about to be vacated by Supervisor Janet Wolf. Should Hart win that contest, this would create another council vacancy and give rise to yet another succession debate over appointments and special elections.

Regardless, the new council will be a very different creature than the one it's been. With the departure of Schneider, White, and Hotchkiss — the first two being moderate liberals, the latter being a staunch but congenial conservative — the council loses 57 years of institutional memory.

Schneider announced she'd be taking a new federal position coordinating homeless services and another as a liaison with Cal State Channel Islands. She also hosted a benefit fundraiser for the Community Arts Workshop — raising \$50,000 — where she belted convincing renditions of Led Zepelin's "Ramble On" and Wilson Pickett's "Mustang Sally." At the council meeting Tuesday, Schneider took pains to thank everyone — including her mother. Being mayor of Santa Barbara, she said, "is the opportunity of a lifetime."

Councilmember Frank Hotchkiss was praised for asking great questions and getting "to the heart" of issues quicker than anyone. He was customarily brief in his farewell remarks, acknowledging that his views often were at odds with those of his colleagues. "If you listened to me," he said, "I know it wasn't easy."

It was Councilmember White, however, who turned his swan song into an aria. White started off as a water commissioner in 1982 and has served in City Hall in various capacities since. A stubborn moderate who took pride in crafting compromises, White highlighted the 10 years he spent trying to get the city's new general plan approved. "It's like our bible," he said. "It's full of wise things to say and a whole lot of apparent contradictions." Those contradictions, however, reflect dynamic tensions between the city's neighborhood preservationists and its social justice advocates who want increased housing densities. These tensions, he warned, will never be tamed or resolved. That needs to be respected and understood, he said. "It's not, 'Our side won.'"

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MEDICINE

VACCINATE, DON'T HESITATE: Even if they are only 10 percent effective, public health czar Dr. Charity Dean argues, the added protection offered by flu vaccines is well worth it.

Eight Dead from Flu

Vaccines Far Less Effective Than Predicted

by Nick Welsh

Eight Santa Barbara county residents have died from the flu in the past two weeks alone. By contrast, only three residents died throughout last year's entire flu season, which typically runs from October to April. Seven were ages 65 or older.

"These numbers are unprecedented for the past 10 years," said Dr. Charity Dean, public health czar for Santa Barbara County. Dean said all but one of the eight had been vaccinated, and all had been given flu-fighting medications. "I'm worried about how severe our flu season will be," she said. Dean said the number of patients who are testing positive for the flu at local hospitals and health clinics is also off the charts. "Our numbers are in line with statewide numbers, and they're definitely cause for concern," she said.

Cottage Hospital reports that 250 patients either have checked themselves in to the emergency room with flu-like symptoms or have been hospitalized for treatment. Typically, that's the number Cottage would see in an entire season. According to Dr. David Fisk, an infectious disease specialist working with both Cottage and Sansum Clinic, flu patients present logistical challenges disproportionate to their numbers. They tend to be older, he said, meaning they often need to be released to the care of skilled nursing facilities. Bed space in such facilities is in short supply, and as a result, these patients spend more time than usual in the emergency room. Cottage is also discouraging those who are otherwise healthy but worried about flu-like symptoms from clogging up limited emergency room space. "The impact has been quite significant," said Fisk.

Initially, Dean said she wondered whether Santa Barbarans were reporting higher numbers in part because of the insult to the lungs inflicted by smoke from the Thomas Fire. Santa Barbara County, she said, began reporting elevated flu numbers sooner than the rest of the state. But now that the rest of the state has caught up, she said, she's discarded that theory. Fisk suggested a separate theory relating to the Thomas Fire: that the large number of evacuees who went out of town during the fire returned home with the infection. This theory, he said, might explain why Santa Barbara got off to what seems like an early start to this year's flu season.

Dean attributed this year's impact to a strain of flu—H3N2—that's particularly resistant to vaccination. According to the Centers for Disease Control, vaccines have been effective at knocking this strain out only 32 percent of the time. But studies from Australia—where the flu season runs about six months ahead of the United States and Europe—indicate the vaccine's effectiveness could be only 10 percent. "It mutates very rapidly," said Fisk.

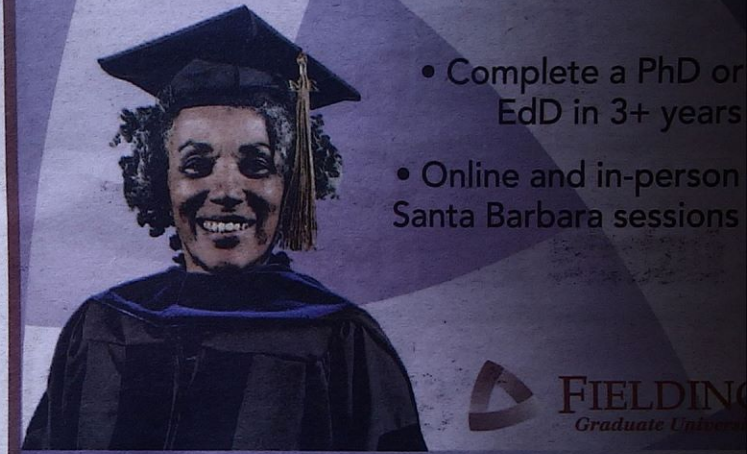
Dean said people should still get flu shots, particularly those younger than 5, older than 65, pregnant, or otherwise dealing with compromised health. "If your choice is between life and death or a trip to intensive care, why would you pass up that kind of protection, particularly if you're already vulnerable?" In another twist, Fisk said this year those with the flu are reporting more atypical symptoms, including light-headedness born of low blood pressure, which can cause falls and concussions. For aging populations, these can be especially problematic.

State public-health directors insist that vaccines still make sense no matter what the numbers suggest. However imperfect the vaccines may be, they can reduce the severity of symptoms and increase the chances of survival, officials said. They deny any shortage of vaccine or anti-flu medications exists in California, though acknowledge spot shortages have occurred due to a difficulty keeping pharmacies supplied.

Normally at this time, only three to four people under the age of 65 would have died from the flu statewide; this year it's been seven times that number. Ten percent of all hospitalizations throughout the state are now caused by the flu. Of the 27 people under 65 who have died of the flu in California this year, only 30 percent were not vaccinated. This flu strain can inflict lethal damage, Dean explained, by attacking a person's respiratory function outright. But sometimes the body's reaction against the flu leaves patients vulnerable to pneumonia.

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Target: Hooray! or Huh?

Mini-Mega-Store Announcement Elicits Joy and Consternation

After the news that Target intended to open a store in October 2018 flashed around Santa Barbara last week, jubilation soon turned to questions: Why is it at the Galleria at State and La Cumbre and not downtown? Who told them it'd be finished so quickly? Where will the expected hordes park? It's going to be how small?

Planning Commissioner Jay Higgins—also a former City Council candidate—is a planner, both professionally and voluntarily. He questioned why the city wasn't being more transparent on whether they'd tried to entice Target to the empty Macy's and why they were only hearing fourth-hand about Target's qualms with downtown or La Cumbre's Sears building. "What about shopping carts that stop?" he asked. "How do they have off-site parking?"

The stores in Target's development portfolio currently range in size from 20,000 to 60,000 square feet in confined urban spaces from Los Angeles' Koreatown to Manhattan's Hell's Kitchen. The Galleria spot is 34,000 square feet, tiny compared to the stores in Ventura and Oxnard, which have retail floors of 220,000 and 150,000 square feet, respectively. "In a location like Herald Square," explained Erin Conroy, a spokesperson for the company, "a 120,000-square-foot store doesn't make a lot of sense." The company was interested in store growth and "reaching new guests," said Conroy, expanding its presence rather than responding to the competition of online sales.

Nonetheless, Target stores have a symbiosis with online sales. Conroy said that during November-December, about 70 percent of online sales went to a customer from a nearby store or the customer picked it up. They looked online before shopping in-store, she said, and often ordered online later.

The same is expected for the Galleria store, which will be "tailored," Conroy said, to suit Santa Barbara. Asked about the CVS in the new Target that will be only 500 feet from one at Five Points Shopping Center, Conroy answered that the store's team leader was always looking for feedback from guests about store content.

Through real estate investment firm Gryphon Capital of Manhattan Beach, Target had been searching Santa Barbara for many months, said Liam Murphy, a broker at Hayes Commercial, including perusal of the Saks building downtown. The company had its own real estate team and didn't talk about why it was not considering Macy's or Sears at La Cumbre, he said. Conroy also deflected such questions. Gryphon acquired the property from Watabun USA—which was planning apartments there—for \$12.55 million in mid-December.

Broker Steve Leider of Lee & Associates worked with Target in San Luis Obispo on a 140,000-square-foot store that opened a couple of years ago, "but it took 15 years to develop," he said. Leider wasn't surprised the company chose the Galleria location: "Target wants to appeal to locals, not tourists, and there are a lot of tourists downtown."

The city has only been in conversation with Target's land-use team for a couple of months, said planner Renee Brooke. "You have to understand," she said, "they haven't even submitted for permits yet." The Galleria choice allows Target to file a like-for-like redo—one retail zone for another retail zone—and inherit the legal non-conforming benefits.

A new retail development of 34,000 square feet would have required 136 parking spaces. The Galleria has 103 parking spots on-site, said George Buell, the city's head of community development, and 15 more currently behind the Grace Village development. Target plans to fill in about 1,000 square feet of the interior space and do an exterior facelift. The new square footage requires Target to add a few parking spaces, said Brooke.

Additionally, the parking lot must be redesigned to accommodate Target's delivery trucks, said Brooke, and a left-turn lane off La Cumbre Road was being engineered. Design review could take place by late January or February, she thought, and though Target projects an October opening—they often open a store in October, she noted—more realistically, it might be closer to one year from now.

County Sues Plains Pipeline

The County of Santa Barbara filed a lawsuit against Plains All American Pipeline, charging the company's oil-line rupture and attendant crude spill along the Refugio coast cost the county \$1.3 million in lost property tax revenues it would have otherwise been able to collect from Venoco and ExxonMobil oil companies. The lawsuit was filed December 29, 2017, in federal court, two weeks after Plains notified county officials it was refusing to make up the lost property taxes. Because of the Plains pipeline accident—in which an estimated 140,000 gallons of crude oil spilled out onto the ground and oozed into the ocean—Venoco and ExxonMobil were forced to shut down operations. Venoco ultimately would go out of business because its offshore oil couldn't get to market. ExxonMobil—a vastly bigger oil company and able to absorb the losses—similarly had its offshore oil flow shut off.

County Counsel Michael Ghizzoni said Plains All American has paid \$2 million in other claims the county has filed to date, but the Texas-based oil company has refused to compensate the county for the loss of property tax revenues. Attorneys for Plains contend the property tax losses the county suffered were a result of the federal pipeline regulator shutting down the two stretches of Plains pipelines after the spill occurred. Plains insists it is responsible only for damage caused by the discharge of oil into the water.

In the December filing, the county highlighted the company's environmental transgressions dating back to 2006. Since that time, the county charged, Plains has experienced 170 incidents with its pipelines and has agreed to pay the Environ-

mental Protection Agency \$41 million for Clean Water Act violations in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, and Louisiana. It also agreed to upgrade 10,000 feet of pipe.

In May 2015, a stretch of pipe owned and operated by Plains along the Gaviota Coast blew out on the mountain side of Highway 101; oil trickled under a culvert and pooled into the ocean. Plains did not notify authorities until three hours after the release and 89 minutes after it had located the site of the problem. "The Refugio Oil Spill was not an accident," declared the county lawsuit, but was caused by pipe

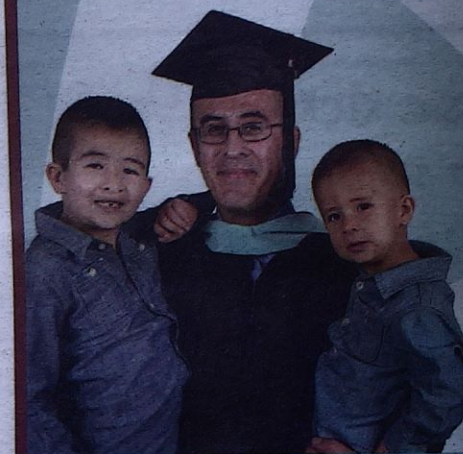
**Plains contends
 the county's property tax losses
 were a result of the federal pipeline
 regulator shutting down pipelines after
 the spill occurred ... it's responsible
 only for damage caused by the
 discharge of oil into the water.**

corrosion that the company could have and should have caught. In addition, the company had refused to install automatic shutoff valves in the event of an oil spill when the pipeline was first permitted in 1987, taking the county to court to block the requirement of this technology. The county is arguing that the pipeline had to be shut down by federal safety regulators only because of how Plains "negligently, wantonly, carelessly and/or recklessly" maintained its facilities. County lawyers are seeking a jury trial.

—Nick Welsh

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Channel Reopened for Oil Business?

As part of a major push to achieve national "energy dominance," President Donald Trump and Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke have unveiled new plans to open up vast swaths of the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf coasts—including the Santa Barbara Channel—to new oil leasing. The Santa Barbara Channel has been exempt from such efforts for the past 34 years, since Ronald Reagan was president, and the news has set off alarms among local elected officials as well as environmental activists.

"For our region, the risk is not hypothetical," declared Congressman Salud Carbajal. "From the oil spill of 1969 to the blowout of the Plains pipeline in 2015, we know firsthand the risks of new oil development and what happens when things go wrong."

Kristen Hislop with the Environmental Defense Center said the new lease offerings would open up 98 percent of the country's existing offshore leases for bids by the petroleum industry. The last time any offshore lands were offered up for lease in California was 1984. The heads of the California Coastal Commission and State Lands Commission have both vowed to fight the new lease offering, as has Governor Jerry Brown. U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein denounced the announcement, and State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson issued a press release

announcing the introduction of a bill to outlaw what Trump is proposing.

Leading the charge for the expansion was Interior Secretary Zinke, a frequent visitor to Santa Barbara, where his wife, Lolita Zinke, grew up. Carbajal complained that previous efforts to contact Zinke about issues of importance to Santa Barbarans have met with no success. "Nothing. Zero," he exclaimed at Zinke's lack of response. "Like the Loch Ness monster, I am told Secretary Zinke exists, but to date I have never seen him."

While Santa Barbara's anti-oil sentiments are long established and ironclad, the oil industry has its South Coast supporters. "Becoming energy independent is in the best interest of America," said Joe Armendariz of the Santa Barbara Technology and Industry Association, "and is one of the reasons we continue to support an 'all of the above' energy policy for America."

Andy Caldwell, spokesperson for the pro-oil, pro-business lobby COLAB (Coalition of Labor, Agriculture & Business), expressed skepticism the announcement would change much. "Not sure it will be a difference maker due to regulatory obfuscation by the state and county," he said. "Having said that, it's a great source of local energy property tax dollars and jobs."

—Nick Welsh

Punk Rocker Indicted for Fraud

Michael Davenport, a Santa Barbara resident and former bassist for the punk-rock band The Ataris, was indicted on federal conspiracy and fraud charges for allegedly operating a nationwide telemarketing real estate scam that cheated approximately 100,000 people out of \$27 million between 2009 and 2016. Davenport, 49, and fellow Santa Barbara resident Cynthia Rawlinson, 51, were both charged with conspiracy to commit mail and wire fraud, five counts of wire fraud, and one count of mail fraud. They each face more than 30 years in prison.

Federal officials said the case is part of an ongoing investigation headed by the St. Louis Field Office of the Chicago Division of the United States Postal Inspection Service. At least 104 victims live in southern Illinois, near where The Ataris formed. Santa Barbara County District Attorney Joyce Dudley and the Santa Maria Office of the FBI provided additional evidence in the case, authorities said.

According to the indictment, Davenport and Rawlinson operated a Santa Barbara-based telemarketing business that went by various names, most commonly American Standard. The company placed ads on Craigslist that purported to show "pre-foreclosure" houses for sale at below-market prices. When individuals responding to the ads called American Standard, salespersons said they needed



Michael Davenport

to pay a \$199 fee to access the complete property information. Prosecutors allege that after victims paid the \$199, they would learn the houses on American Standard's list were either not for sale or no homes existed at the addresses provided.

The indictment states Davenport was the owner of American Standard and oversaw operations. Rawlinson reportedly started at the company as a salesperson and was promoted to sales manager for its Santa Barbara office at 401 North Milpas Street. American Standard also ran a call center in Lompoc. Both locations were raided by FBI agents in October 2016.

More than \$104,000 in cash was seized from Davenport when he was arrested last month at the Bill and Hillary Clinton Airport in Little Rock, Arkansas. Another \$850,000 in his personal bank accounts is in the process of being seized. Both Davenport and Rawlinson are scheduled to be arraigned on January 17 at the federal courthouse in St. Louis. —Tyler Hayden

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among local elected officials as well as environmental activists.

"For our region, the risk is not hypothetical," declared Congressman Salud Carbajal. "From the oil spill of 1969 to the blowout of the Plains pipeline in 2015, we know firsthand the risks of new oil development and what happens when things go wrong."

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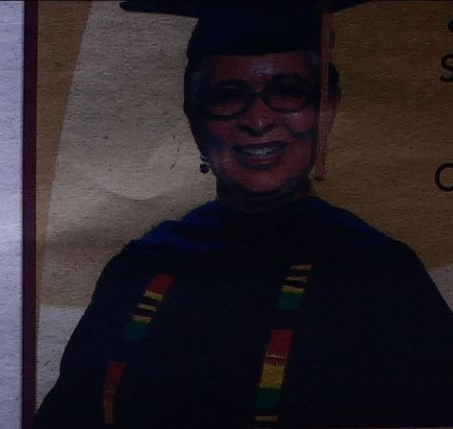


Michael Davenport

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Wooden Hall Concerts
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Opinions **ANGRY POODLE BARBECUE**

Dogging the Weather

FIT TO BE FRIED: Yeah, my nose is seriously out of joint. Former vice president **Al Gore** was in town last Sunday, and I didn't know about it. **Worse yet, I didn't get invited.** Houston, that's a problem. I make a point to not attend all kinds of events like this. But for me to truly not go, I need to be invited first. That's how it works.

It should be acknowledged I was never a huge Al Gore fan — he seemed to walk around in a state of **clueless hubris**. But it's indisputable Gore definitely had the **2000 election** against **George Bush** stolen right from under him. Bush then wound up getting us into two wars in the Middle East that to this day we are still fighting. I blamed that on Gore's **annoying android persona**.

Since then, the former veep has done an amazing job reinventing himself. He now comes across as a really smart guy who has learned to make genuinely self-deprecating jokes while pursuing a very serious mission. Like former prez **Jimmy Carter** — another driven megalomaniac from the South — Gore continues to make a much bigger contribution to the planet pursuing his post-political career than he ever did as an elected member of the power elite. Somewhere along the way, Gore got religion on **climate change**. With his groundbreaking film, **An Inconvenient Truth** — a PowerPoint presentation masquerading as a documentary — Gore managed

in 2006 to make a jeremiad about extreme weather a pop-culture phenom. No longer was the issue the exclusive domain of wonky guys in white lab coats who spoke a language that was hard to understand. We could all freak out.

Earlier this year, Gore released **An Inconvenient Sequel** — a 10-years-later look at the state of climate change — which somehow manages to be both angrier and more hopeful than the first. Gore **used to live in Santa Barbara** briefly, **Montecito** to be precise. This past Sunday he was back in town visiting his ex-wife and daughter who still live here. But he was also here at the instigation of Santa Barbara movie mogulista **Roger Durling**, who was screening Gore's sequel in Durling's new and vastly improved **Riviera Theatre**. Invited to watch was the cinematic equivalent of superdelegates, industry people who have ballots to cast in this year's Oscar elections. In other words, Gore was politicking.

The timing could not have been any better. Or worse. When Gore showed up, Santa Barbara was just digging itself out of the **Thomas Fire**, the biggest ever in state history. Still on the way were the **pelting rains** that sliced the south-facing slopes of our backcountry, scalped raw by the Thomas Fire. We knew they were coming; we just couldn't imagine how bad they would be.

Not every **natural disaster** can be blamed on climate change. Behind its sunny façade and swaying palm trees, Santa Barbara's cli-

mate has always been one of brutal extremes. Feast or famine. But in recent years, those extremes have grown more volatile, more violent. Our latest **drought** was the worst in recorded history. This fall was the second driest fall ever. Our summer the hottest since 1859, when **pelting heat reportedly caused birds to drop from the sky**, mid-flight, like so many drops of rain. Santa Barbara's fire season, formerly a four-month window of doom, now runs year-round, **much like the NBA basketball season**. The truth has gotten both inconvenient and obvious.

Had I attended the film screening, I would have heard Gore explain how the direst scientific warnings predicted in the film he made 11 years ago were not borne out. **The truth has actually been much, much worse.** Extreme weather events occurred much sooner, much more dramatically, and with greater frequency than even his grimmest doomsayers anticipated. Things that should not have started happening for another 20 years are already unfolding. **"It's like a nature hike through the Book of Revelations,"** Gore said during a panel discussion after the screening. It's a good line; I think I'll steal it.

But the big news Gore had to tell is that there's good news, too. Yes, **Donald Trump** and his hitman **Ryan Zinke**, Secretary of the Interior and pseudo-Santa Barbara resident, just announced they were opening up pretty much all coastal waters — including Santa Barbara's — to **offshore oil development**, all

under the dubious new rubric of achieving **"energy dominance."** (It's worth noting that **Florida's coast** has just been exempt from new leasing proposals because Florida's governor is a Republican running for Senate and offshore oil is hated there almost as much as it is in Santa Barbara.) And yes, there are no fewer than **700 new onshore oil wells** now proposed for Santa Barbara County, near **Cat Canyon**, that will soon be coming before the county supervisors for approval, all relying on the energy-intensive technology known as **cyclic steam injection**, a kissing cousin to fracking.

But even while all this is transpiring, global investors have figured out there's money to be made on **alternative energy sources** like solar and wind. As solar prices have dropped, production has increased. As production has increased, prices continue to drop. Not just "impressively," but dramatically. Compellingly. Anyone genuinely interested in "energy dominance" would invest with the same sort of government subsidies and tax loopholes that the federal government has long afforded the oil industry. It can make a difference. Last year, the tri-counties just hit a major solar milestone, producing for the first time **one gigawatt of solar power**. The **Hoover Dam**, by contrast, produces two.

In the meantime, Roger, if you don't want me to come to your movies, just invite me. I won't go.

— Nick Welsh

Winter Hours
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8:30AM - 5:00PM
SUNDAYS
10:00AM - 4:00PM

1/15
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Fruit Tree Pruning with Karen Christman
Saturday, January 13, 10:00 AM
Ornamental Pruning with Greg Kitajima
Saturday, January 27, 10:00 AM
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Back by Popular Demand
José González
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Bedouine

A soulful songwriter with a deep, quiet power, José González's probing lyrics, intricate guitar melodies and "beautiful yet haunting voice" (Spin.com) converge in his unforgettable mix of indie pop and intimate acoustics. Born in Sweden to Argentinian parents, González seamlessly integrates the sounds of his Latin American roots with sublime introspective folk punctuated by rock panache.

Wed, Jan 31 / 8 PM / UCSB Campbell Hall
Tickets start at \$25 / \$18 UCSB students

In Memoriam

Betty Klausner

1928-2017

Built Santa Barbara's Contemporary Arts Scene

BY RICHARD ROSS

The first time I saw Betty Klausner, I was struck by both her elegance and her sophistication. She was the incarnation of Myrna Loy to Bob Klausner's William Powell.

Betty came from a privileged world where she sold Girl Scout cookies from the family limousine with chauffeur in tow. She could have remained in this world, but in Santa Barbara, she chose to work with artists. Whether figuring out how to get money for canvas or for a meal, Betty was there, helping with career, dinner, critical thought, and conversation.

She brought the best out in people and in the art community. Betty began the Contemporary Graphics Center, where early shows of Steven Cortright and a newcomer like me were held. She was instrumental in acquiring space to bring the Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CAF) into being: 1,500 square feet in the Balboa Building and later in a 3,500-square-foot space in Paseo Nuevo. CAF organized in Steven's storefront or in Café Vallarta on Haley and occasionally at the Paradise Café, where conversations on the meaning of art and the practice of artists — between Guy Williams, Joan Tanner, Mary Seamster, Sam Erenberg, and Ciel Bergman — would take place. These strong, engaged discussions between respected friends and artists belied the belief that the only true path was their own. This was a forum forged in wine, beer, food, and passion. Betty helped move this forum heart to the building body. She gave this energy a home.

Betty also was the last survivor of iconic Santa Barbara women, including Carol Valentine, Zola Rex, Gail Berkus, and Mercedes Eichholz, who interacted often and were tenaciously supportive of the arts in Santa Barbara. Collectively, it was a golden age during which these women created more art events, auctions, and exhibitions — and more art collecting — than ever before. Rita Ferri, former assistant director at CAF and curator for the County Arts Commission, said, "We have Betty Klausner to thank for the strong presence of contemporary art in our community today. She fought hard to have CAF recognized as the premier contemporary art space between L.A. and San Francisco. It was her dream, and she would not let it die."

Betty was a feminist of the first order. She was never conscious of the limits of her gender defined by the constrictions of her time. She was undaunted in what she could dream and accomplish.

Betty's presence as guest or host was most welcome. While her intellect and strong presence regaled the room, passionate artists were always her delight and amusement. She filled her house with works by Rick Aber, Joan Snyder, Philip Guston, and many young graduate art students. In fact, the Klausner collection formed because she cared about supporting not simply the work but the artist.

When you met her over business, you knew the business was going to get done. A deliberate person, her demands were exacting but always delivered with the utmost respect for those with whom she worked. Despite being told it was too contemporary, she ushered through approval of the first city public art project by Marge Dunlap in Las Aves near the Bird Refuge. Artist Michael Singer created the first public art installation at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. The Kienholzes brought their installation to Santa



PASSION: Betty Klausner was instrumental in bringing a contemporary arts presence to old-world Santa Barbara.

Over a vigorous discussion at work one day, the conversation meandered into talks about relationships. I mentioned that my wife and I were having our 10th anniversary on the Fourth of July. A month later, Betty invited us to her Posilipo house, where she had prepared an iced sheet cake to commemorate the occasion. I had forgotten the significance; Betty did not. Once when visiting from San Francisco, Betty announced she was going to stay with us in our modest house on the Mesa because she "wanted to see how the other half lives." There was no irony in her statement. Betty always lived in a rarefied world — moving with ease from John Ireland's old home on the beach to the Levi Strauss penthouse in San Francisco.

Betty was passionate about her work with conceptual artist David Ireland and her effort to save his installation site, his Capp Street House in San Francisco. In 2003, she wrote the book *Touching Time and Space* about David Ireland, literally.

These small anecdotes do little to shape the presence and the force that were Betty and her husband, Bob Klausner, in Santa Barbara. They were the political and cultural touchstones. Together they covered issues pertaining to the environment and contemporary arts — the first went to Bob and the other to Betty. During their time here, they formed a community that still resonates decades after they left to be with their three children and grandchildren in San Francisco.

Betty's wit was the sharpest, and her heart was the kindest. Betty was taken by the unnatural stillness of Alzheimer's that envelops some people at the end of their lives. It was the most paradoxical position for someone so vibrant. The stillness has ended, but her presence is still felt deeply by many in Santa Barbara.

Born in 1928 to Mildred and Charles Bloom in New York City, Betty Klausner lived the last 44 years of her life in California, first in Santa Barbara and later in San Francisco. After raising her children with her husband, Betty embarked on a varied career in the arts. She served on the San Francisco Art Institute Board of Directors, was a founder of the Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (now the Museum of Contemporary Art Santa Barbara), and, along with her late brother, Lewis Bloom, was a devoted benefactor and friend of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art (SBMA).

SBMA Trustee Clay Tedeschi has given \$100,000 to establish a Memorial Fund in honor of Betty and Bob Klausner. He has also pledged \$150,000 as a match (one dollar for every two given) to encourage support for the Museum's Imagine More Capital Campaign. Contributions can be made to SBMA, 1130

obituaries (continued)

Mary Osborne Craig Skewes-Cox

01/28/21-12/23/17



Mary Osborne Craig Skewes-Cox of Ross, CA died on December 23 at the age of 96. Born in Oxnard, CA on January 28, 1921; she was the only child of architect James Osborne Craig and designer Mary McLaughlin Craig of Santa Barbara, CA.

Mary grew up in Santa Barbara. She attended the Howard School in Montecito, Santa Barbara Girls School, and Foxcroft in Middleburg, VA from 1935-1938. In 1938 she made her debut in Philadelphia, where she and her mother spent much time with an aunt, Mrs. Edward Roberts. In 1940 she went to Katharine Gibbs Secretarial School in Boston for one year. In 1942 she worked for the War Production Board in Washington, DC, then returned to SB and worked as a legal secretary for several years. In 1945 she moved to San Francisco, where she met her future husband, Bennet Skewes-Cox. They were married at the Santa Barbara Mission on August 31, 1946. Afterwards, they lived in Washington, DC where Bennet studied at Georgetown University, working toward his Master's degree in political science. In 1948 they returned to Ross, CA with their young daughter Anita. Her arrival was followed by two more girls, Pamela and Amy. Ross became their permanent home, except for a return to Washington, DC from 1963-1965.

In 1976 Mary began volunteer work with Hospice by the Bay. As one of its founding members, she became a major force in its creation as the second hospice in the country. Mary was a member of the Lagunitas Club, the Marin Garden Club, the Marin Art and Garden Center, and the Town and Country Club in San Francisco. Her husband Bennet died in 1995.

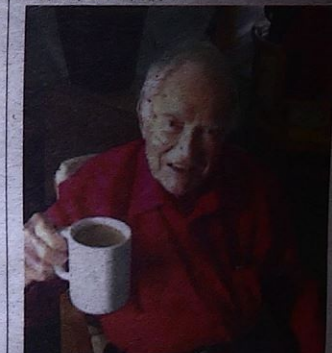
Mary took great pride in her family's history. Her mother was born in Deadwood, South Dakota in the shadow of the great Homestead Mine, and grew up in the rough and tumble days of Calamity Jane and Wild Bill Hickok. Mary's father, a Scot, immigrated to America at the age of 16 and went on to make a lasting contribution to the architectural beauty of Santa Barbara. At the very end of her life, Mary took great joy in collaborating on a book published about her

(Robert) Skewes-Cox of Ross. She also leaves behind 5 grandchildren: Sarah Thompson, Mary Anderson, Bennet McCann, Austin McCann, and Carson Twiss. Mary also had 8 great-grandchildren: Mykala and Galena McCann; Avery, James, and Brooks Thompson; Carter McCann; and Chloé and Ayla Molinuevo. The family is very grateful to her two devoted caregivers, Fatima Caminade and Ginger Gmahling, and the many caring staff at Aldersly Assisted Living in San Rafael.

Burial in Santa Barbara will be in the spring.

Robert Carlton Hecht

02/24/22-11/02/17



Robert Carlton Hecht (Bob), who resided at the Casa Dorinda in Montecito, passed away on November 2, 2017. Active until the day that he died, he loved, and was loved, by many.

Born in Philadelphia, PA., February 24, 1922. Graduated Swarthmore College, Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa in Economics and Finance. Member of the Student Council, Glee Club, Debating Team and Captain of the Tennis Team. Kappa Sigma Fraternity.

Lieutenant Commanders, U.S. Navy on the USS Gilbert Islands aircraft carrier in the Pacific, 1945-6. Four service ribbons and three battle stars.

Two business careers: Executive Vice President of I. Magnin and other department stores 1950-1975; Vice President of UBS Financial Services 1975-the last day of his life.

Ranked in the top ten in State Tennis first in Kentucky and later on in Florida. He embraced other hobbies of swimming and ballroom dancing.

Civic participation: Board Member San Francisco Museum of Art, President's Council Santa Barbara City College, Leadership Council of the United Way, Council Member Music Academy of the West, major contributor to the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Barbara, the Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara, KCLU Radio, Swarthmore College and many others. Robert C. Hecht Chairs in both the Lobero Theatre and Granada Theatres Santa Barbara.

He will truly be missed by all of his family, co-workers and friends. Survived by his two loving daughters, Dorothea B. Lee and Sarah E. Wil-

boats was truly an honor.

The Lynns moved to CA in the late 60's when many Delco employees were transferred from Wisconsin. From 1968-1972 Max worked on the lunar landing project Apollo. Through the years Max had three sailboats who he named "Tranquility" — from the name of the craft that landed on the moon. In 1975 Max worked with the Russians on the first manned space station, Soyuz.

Max and Shirley joined the Santa Barbara Yacht Club in 1973 and he became Commodore in 1979. They spent many hours sailing, racing and enjoying the companionship of their Yacht Club friends. Max had a record 43 Santa Barbara-King Harbor races, dating from 1974-2017 — doing all but the very first one!

After his retirement from Delco he and Shirley traveled the world. They particularly enjoyed delivering boats to new owners or locations. Shirley passed away in 2013.

In 2015 he was introduced to his second wife Patricia. They had a wonderful 2-1/2 years together. They did several major trips together, enjoyed their friends and Pat never missed sailing with Max.

In addition to being an accomplished yachtsman Max was a true gentleman-kind, wise and a loyal friend. He was always available to help anyone who needed it. He will be missed by all who knew him. He is survived by his loving wife Patricia, stepson Seldon Del Giorgio (Shania) and their sons AJ and Joey.

A celebration of Max's life will be held at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club on Thursday, January 18th at 3 PM. In lieu of flowers, please donate to your favorite charity, the SB Youth Sailing Foundation or the Cancer Foundation of SB.

Palmita 'Bella' Sanchez

05/02/23-01/01/18



Palmita, better known as Bella was born and raised in Mountain View, California. She was one of eleven children. Her parents Manuel and Dulcenombre Diaz immigrated from Spain.

She started working early in life in orchards with her mother than later in the fish canneries in Monterey, California. Bella loved to dance and met her future husband Pete Sanchez with some friends. They married, bought a house in Pacific Grove

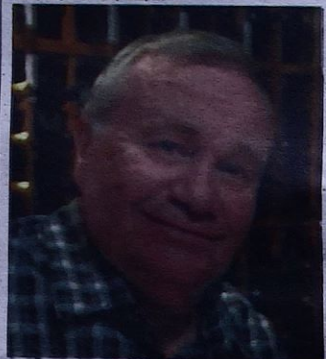
sons had moved. They spent more than thirty years at the Edgerly Arms apartments behind the Moose Lodge where they formed many friendships in their retired life.

Bella was preceded in death by her son Gregory, all ten siblings, and husband Pete. She is survived by her two sons Michael and Ron, daughters in law Gail and Nancy, two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

She was a devoted wife and mother and her funny, feisty personality will be missed by many. She lived her last two years at the Californian nursing home where the entire staff always met her needs with excellent care. A private burial will be held by immediate family.

Gerald 'Jerry' Lee Miller

03/11/50-12/22/17



Jerry Miller, our loving father, amazing husband, and one of the kindest souls alive, passed away unexpectedly, but so peacefully in his sleep on December 21/22nd. The Chinese culture believes that the few people who pass away in this peaceful and kind manner have lived the most honorable lives — they have 'earned' this special passage from all the good that they have done in their current and past lives. That was exactly who Jerry was: a kind, special, and honorable presence on this earth and in our lives. Although his loved ones were not ready, Jerry needed to step out of his physical body and the pain it so often brought him most of his life, leave that physical vessel behind, and walk freely and easily for the first time in decades. He was so happy and feeling so good, both mentally and physically, and surrounded by the love of his family and pets, God took Jerry's hand in his peaceful sleep because he needs him alongside him now.

Jerry was born in Downey, CA, moved to Running Springs as a young adult, then to Santa Barbara in 1969, and eventually to Mesa Oaks/Lompoc in 1987. Jerry endured many lengthy hospitalizations and surgeries throughout his life due to contracting polio as an infant, but his physical limitations led him to be the young adult and future man he was destined to be: funny, kind, hard-working and positive — always so positive. Jerry's various life-long professions didn't always define who he was, but they always reflected the hardworking

a reindeer ranger at Santa's Village, to framing art during college, later building and sailing NACRA catamarans, and ultimately as a knowledgeable systems engineer at Vandenberg AFB, Jerry took each job seriously and with his full life force. It was his hobbies that truly touched his heart and soul: sailing, fishing, his love of music and guitars, traveling to Australia, New Zealand and Fuji, often visiting New Mexico and Sedona, the love and care he took of his family and home and, of course, his two side-kick Persians, Reddington and Rufus. Tee-ball coach through Babe Ruth and basketball, Jerry coached and guided so many amazing young people in Lompoc. And the Dodgers. We cannot forget Jerry's lifelong love and support for his beloved Dodgers!

Jerry was able to enjoy his hard-earned and well-deserved retirement for the past year and a half. Jerry had recently endured two months of hospitalizations, surgeries, and rehabilitation this past spring, but he fought to live and stay on this precious earth. He appreciated so much to be healthy again and back to the loving fold of his family and home.

Jerry was the love of Patty Fenwick Miller's life and we were together 40 years, husband and wife for 36 yrs. We created an awesome life together and three amazing children, who were the ultimate love and highlights of Jerry's life: Clea Elisse, Kaitlyn Laurel (Onyx) and Devin Fenwick Miller (Angela). These wonderful humans were Jerry's highest achievements in his life, hands down. Jerry also leaves his cherished brother John (brother Ken was preceded in death), and loving sisters Sharon-Joy and Pat, plus many loving nieces and nephews. Brother-in-law, John, was a constant friend and brother of Jerry's for 40 years as well.

Jerry's life celebration will be held on Friday, January 19th at 2:00 pm at our home, 3118 Oak Pointe Drive, Mesa Oaks. Please contact me with any questions at pfenwickmiller@yahoo.com.

Jerry's life touched and affected so many throughout the years, he was so loved and will be so fondly remembered. His family would love to see you and have you participate in his life celebration to share funny stories and antidotes, even possibly some photos of his time with you. We are all so personally humbled to have had this wonderful and amazing kind soul in our lives, and he will now walk beside us on every adventure effortlessly and in no pain, happy, and at peace.

There is no doubt in our minds that in 20 years, an amazing young Dodger who will defy all those before him, someone who will run bases the fastest, hit the longest home runs, and be a kind and loving inspiration for all, will clearly be Jerry, enjoying his

Max Lynn

01/01/35-11/15/17



Max Lynn was born January 1st, 1935 in Winchester, Kansas and passed away on November 15th, 2017 in Santa Barbara. Max was a prime example of American drive and determination as he was born on a small farm in Kansas and ended up working on the Apollo project that landed man on the moon!

Max graduated from the University of Kansas in 1955 and married his first wife Shirley in September 1955. Then began their life of adventure and travel, as Max moved several times around the US with the Air Force. Their only child Max David Lynn was born in 1958 and died in 2006.

In 1960 after his discharge from the Air Force, Max began his engineering career with AC Spark Plugs, a division of General Motors that was later bought by Delco. They Lynns lived in several places around the country during his Delco career. It was while living in Wisconsin on the Great Lakes that the Lynns learned how to sail and began a lifelong love of sailboat racing. Max was a great sailor and raced throughout his life, winning innumerable awards and honors. His last race was 2 months before he died when his boat took a third place in a SB Yacht Club race.



GRANDEZA MEXICANA
FOLK BALLET COMPANY

¡ENTRADA GRATUITA! / FREE

JANES, 19 DE ENERO / FRIDAY, JAN 19 • 7 PM • ISLA VISTA SCHOOL, 6875 EL COLEGIO ROAD
INGO, 21 DE ENERO / SUNDAY, JAN 21 • 7 PM • MARJORIE LUKE THEATRE, 721 E. COTA ST

Las puertas se abrirán a las 6:30 pm. / Doors open 6:30 pm.
 Habrá recepción después del espectáculo. / Reception follows the performance.

f t i /vivaelartesb

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721 E. COTA STREET ~ SANTA BARBARA
Where dreams take stage!

JAN 13 1:30P
"SUITE" Goleta School of Ballet presents a very special Nutcracker for their youngest performers. For more info and tickets please visit goletaschoolofballet.com or call 805-382-3823. Don't miss this always charming holiday show!

JAN 15 5:30P
"NUTCRACKER SWEET" Westside Dance presents their annual holiday show, after sweeter version of the holiday classic. For additional information and tickets please visit westsidedancesb.com or call 805-637-8773. Experience all the magic of the Nutcracker in minute ballet that's perfect for young and old!

JAN 18 7:00P
"JAZZ BAND CONCERT" The Santa Barbara Junior High School Music Department presents their **FREE** annual winter concert. For additional info please visit or call 805-963-7751 x4029. Don't miss this chance to see the talented musicians of Jazz Band, Concert Band, and Orchestra performing a mixture of musical arrangements some holiday favorites!

JAN 21 7:00P
"GRANDEZA MEXICANA" The Luke Theatre and UCSB A&L present this **FREE** show as part of the Viva el Arte SB concert series. Whether depicting celebrations, or daily rituals, Grandeza's choreographic work is based on careful research and commitment to preserving the traditions of Mexico's history into the future. For more please visit facebook.com/vivaelartesb. See you there!

Petit Valentin
RESTAURANT

Lunch Served M-F 11:30am-2:30pm
 Bread, butter & olives ♦ \$4 Soup du jour \$6
 House salad, onion, tomatoes, red wine vinaigrette \$10

Lunch Specials - \$10
 (add a choice of soup or house salad for an additional \$2.50)
 Sautéed spinach & goat cheese crepe
 Crab cake Florentine
 Steak and mushroom crostini with caramelized onions & balsamic reduction
 Perale sole, lemon & caper
 Shrimp & grits ♦ Croque monsieur

Small Plates
 Grilled peaches, beets, whipped lemon goat cheese \$9
 Kale caesar salad with slivered almonds \$8 (add chicken or shrimp +\$6)
 Artisan cheese board \$11
 Norwegian smoked salmon, cream cheese, onion & capers \$11
 Roasted quail, fig, grapes & green olive \$11
 Crisp crepe of escargot, red wine sauce \$11

**To keep prices down, free bread service not included*

LUNCH M-F 11:30-2:30PM • DINNER 5-9PM
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GOODBYE, SUNSHINE: Sunny Quinn during one of her Pascucci shifts in downtown Santa Barbara.

Remembering Sunny

Pascucci Restaurant's beloved bartender Sunny Quinn lost her battle with cancer last month. I had the privilege of working side by side with her for several fundraisers during her 16 years at Pascucci. Sunny was a total professional and a positive life force, loved by many.

Here is a message about a service to be held later this month: "Please join us for a Celebration of Life picnic honoring Sunny Quinn on January 21, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at Oak Park in the Sycamore picnic area. We will be gathering to share our favorite memories of our wonderful mother, grandmother, and friend Sunny. Please bring a dish to share along with your best stories of Sunny."

In lieu of flowers, Sunny requested that donations be made to the Cancer Foundation of Santa Barbara in her memory. See cfsb.org.

that Our Daily Bread has closed. Can that be true? I hope not!" Reader Peter: "John, Our Daily Bread bakery/restaurant appears to be closed. Sign on window announcing same and a peek in the window reveals empty shelves and the like." Reader Patrick: "John, there's a sign in the window of Our Daily Bread that they have closed the café but that the wholesale bakery will remain open." Reader Suzanne: "I saw a sign on the door at Our Daily Bread that their café is now closed, though they remain open for their wholesale bread accounts."

STARBUCKS COMING TO UNIVERSITY PLAZA: I was talking to one of the staff inside Albertsons market at 7127 Hollister Avenue in Goleta (next to Costco), and she told me that the flower department near the front of the store will transform into a Starbucks in the next few months.

NECTAR UPDATE: Change is in the works at Nectar, located downtown at 20 East Cota Street. Here is a message to you from owner Brad Sherman: "Nectar Eatery & Lounge has temporarily closed its doors to regroup and rebrand. Stay tuned!"



PASCUCCI GOLETA CLOSURES: This just in from owner Laura Knight: "I'm saddened to let you know that we have closed our Goleta location. New Year's Eve was our last night, just one month shy of two years. The Goleta market proved to be more of a challenge than we had anticipated. I look back at things I might have done differently but can't. I am going to focus all of my energy on our downtown location, where we will be celebrating our 25th anniversary this spring! I'll be sending you information about promotions we will be offering for our many loyal customers."

ISLANDS HIRING 120 ASAP: Islands Fine Burgers & Drinks, coming in mid-February to La Cumbre Plaza at 3825 State Street (formerly Marmalade Café and Red Robin), has 120 positions to fill in a very short time and is hiring now for all positions. "For 35 years, Islands Restaurants has been a Southern California tradition, providing our guests with great drinks, fine burgers, salads, tacos, and our famous fresh cut fries," said an official press release. "We are hiring for ALL POSITIONS! What's in it for you? Competitive earning opportunities with room for advancement; flexible scheduling, full- and part-time; free meal during shift and 50% dining discount when dining as a guest; quality training and support with your personal development; quarterly company sponsored basketball, softball, and volleyball tournaments." Apply online at islandsrestaurants.com by clicking on the "Join the Team"

THE 805 DELI REMODELING: Reader David spotted a sign at The 805 Deli at 135 East Carrillo Street: "For all our customers, 805 Deli will be closed for the month of January for remodeling. We will be open February first. Check out our other location, Presidio Market." That's located on the corner of Santa Barbara and Victoria streets.

OUR DAILY BREAD RUMORS: Readers tell me that something's up at Our Daily Bread, 2700 De la

FOOD & DRINK • Dining Out Guide • WINE GUIDE

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